

Northwest threatened that if it did not get its way in labor negotiations, it would sell off the assets of the company, including the international routes. Again, I find it unacceptable that international routes be used for this purpose. It is way past time that we stop such activities.

My bill would end these abuses by prohibiting the sale of international routes. I recognize that this could be unfair if a carrier wanted to transfer a route it had previously purchased. In these cases, my bill would allow the carrier to recapture the price it originally paid.

Mr. Speaker, we need to restore the original public policy premise for granting international routes: to provide the best service in the public interest. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this common-sense legislation which will promote the economic interests of the American traveling public.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL RICHARD A. BURPEE, USAF-RETIRED

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 10, 1998*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary individual, Lieutenant General Richard A. Burpee, USAF (Retired) on the eve of his retirement from the Retired Officers Association, which has its headquarters in my district in northern Virginia. As I reviewed General Burpee's career, in preparing this tribute, I see that in one way or another, Dick has spent virtually his entire adult life either in or working for the uniformed services.

Born in Delton, Michigan, he entered the Air Force and earned his pilot's wings in 1955. For the next six years, General Burpee was an instructor pilot at Bryan and Reese Air Force Bases in Texas. The next few years he served in various staff assignments until January 1967, when he entered the F-4 Program at MacDill Air Force Base Florida, where he served as an aircraft commander. He transferred to the Republic of Vietnam in August 1967 and served at Cam Rahn Bay Air Base until September 1968 as a flight commander in the 391st Tactical Fighter Squadron. During his tour in Vietnam, he flew 336 combat missions in the F-4 aircraft.

Following his combat tour, Dick had a succession of challenging assignments, each entailing greater responsibility. Among these were three assignments in Headquarters USAF, in the Pentagon, in operational test and evaluation, director of operations and the assistant director of plans and operations. General Burpee also served in a number of command assignments including, commander of the 509th Bombardment Wing, Strategic Air Command, 1974-75; commander of the 19th Air Division, Strategic Air Command, 1977-79; commander of Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center, 1983-85 and commander of 15th Air Force, Strategic Air Command, from 1988 until his retirement in 1990. In between these assignments, he found time to earn his masters degree in public administration from the George Washington University and to attend the National War College.

General Burpee is a command pilot who amassed an incredible 11,000 flying hours in

various aircraft during his remarkable career. His military awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal With Cluster, Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross With Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal With 14 Oak Leaf Clusters and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

General Burpee is married to the former Sally Dreve Fisher of Fort Worth, Texas. They have two children, Richard A. and Brent A.

General Burpee was elected to the board of directors of the Retired Officers Association (TROA) in 1992, and as chairman of the board in 1996. Through his stewardship, the Retired Officers Association played a vital role as a staunch advocate of legislative initiatives to maintain readiness and improve the quality of life for all members of the uniformed services—active, reserve, and retired, plus their families and survivors. I won't describe all of his accomplishments, but will briefly focus on a few to illustrate the breadth of his concern for service people. As chairman, he led the fight to honor the life time health care commitment to servicemembers, which ultimately resulted in legislative authority to reopen the doors of military treatment facilities to Medicare-eligible beneficiaries through an innovative program we have all come to know as Medicare subvention. More recently, he teamed with me and my distinguished colleagues, Messrs. J.C. WATTS (Okla.) and WILLIAM "MAC" THORNBERRY (Texas) to win approval of a demonstration to allow Medicare-eligible service beneficiaries to enroll in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. These programs, when expanded nationwide, will take critical steps toward honoring this Nation's commitment to those who served so valiantly. Also, under his direction, TROA worked tirelessly to provide survivor benefits to widows of retirees, who died before the survivor benefit program was enacted two decades ago, and to restore dependency and indemnity compensation to remarried widows of service-connected disabled veterans, whose second or subsequent marriages terminated due to death or divorce. Finally, he was ever mindful of the adverse effects on morale and retention caused by broken commitments and inadequate compensation and forcefully championed the causes of fairness and equity. His leadership efforts to defeat the imposition of user fees in military health care facilities, to preserve cost-of-living adjustments for retirees and to provide adequate pay raises for active and reserve members are especially worthy of note.

As a final thought, as I am sure you will all agree, the word leadership is often applied perfunctorily or to those who do not deserve it. In General Burpee's case, just the opposite is true. He has been, in every sense of the word, a leader in the military, TROA and the entire retired community. Our wishes go with him for a long life and continued success in service to his Nation and especially to those in uniform who he has so admirably led.

TRIBUTE TO HUMANITARIANS

**HON. TONY P. HALL**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 10, 1998*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, during the past month a series of deadly events has brutally thinned the ranks of those who are devoted to helping the world's poor and sick.

The bombing of our embassy in Nairobi was perhaps the most visible loss of Americans who worked to reach out to people in other countries. Twelve Americans perished there, alongside nearly 500 Kenyans.

Last week, four more Americans died while traveling on U.N. business aboard the plane that crashed near Halifax. Ingrid Acevedo, Pierce Gerety, Mary Lou Clements-Mann, and Jonathan Mann represented our country in key positions at the United Nations, and their deaths are keenly felt by their colleagues, as well as their families and friends.

I have said many times that many of the Americans I have met in the field of humanitarian work are remarkable. They are among the most selfless and dedicated of people, and their examples never fail to inspire me.

They also are dying in increasing numbers, as are the local people and other nations' representatives who serve as their colleagues. It is now more dangerous to feed and care for hurting people as a U.N. humanitarian worker than it is to serve in a war zone as one of its peacekeepers—for the first time in more than 50 years.

This increasing pace of deaths cannot be attributed to the toll that disease takes on humanitarian workers' health. Nor does it include those killed in plane crashes. It reflects only the growing number of attacks against aid workers employed by the United Nations and private charities alike.

I am encouraged to know that Secretary General Kofi Annan and the leaders of private charities are looking for ways to guard humanitarian workers' safety. The world can't afford to lose more of these dedicated individuals, but the courage their work demands, and the very nature of the dangers they regularly face, make protecting them enormously difficult.

What is within our power, though, is to remember their contributions, and to stay the humanitarian course for which they gave their lives, and I urge my colleagues in Congress to do that today and as we go about our own work in the days ahead.

It is only in the work of those we now mourn, and not the manner of their tragic deaths, that Ingrid Acevedo, Pierce Gerety, Mary Lou Clements-Mann, and Jonathan Mann represent an extraordinary corps of professionals.

Ingrid Acevedo, a young woman from New York, most recently has led efforts to spread the word about UNICEF's trick-or-treat effort on behalf of needy children. Acevedo began her career of service to the poor at Bread for the World, fighting hunger and poverty in the United States. She then moved to the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, where as its director of public relations, she brought needed attention to the life-saving work UNICEF does throughout the world.

Pierce Gerety was a Yale educated and Harvard-trained lawyer who, after receiving those institutions' highest honors, dedicated

his life to helping refugees in some of the world's most desperate places. He most recently had been working for the U.N. High Commissioner of Refugees in Rwanda, and for the U.N.'s Operation Lifeline Sudan, which brings relief to 2.6 million people facing starvation there.

Mary Lou Clements-Mann and Jonathan Mann, were doctors whose fight against AIDS made them pioneers. Together, they led the push for a vaccine for the world's poor afflicted with AIDS. Clements-Mann was an epidemiologist at Johns Hopkins; Mann founded the World Health Organization's global AIDS program.

Today, along with those gathered in New York and elsewhere to mourn these remarkable Americans, we honor them and others in their fields who have gone before. Each died in the noble endeavor of serving those less fortunate among us. Each represented the best of our great country, and their deaths diminish us all.